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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

REGIONS BARTER FOODSTUFFS FOR CLOTH, INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS;
CANTON REPORTS INCREASED EXPORTS

BARTER TRADE MOVES 10 MILLION PICULS OF FOOD -- Shanghai Hsin-wen Jih-pao, 14 Apr 50

Chungking, 15 April (Hsin-hua) -- The Southwest Regional Administrative District is now in the process of transporting 10 million piculs of foodstuffs to other areas or to distribution points within its own borders. Of this amount, 4 million piculs is being moved to the East China District, afflicted with natural calamities, and the remainder to Chungking, Ch'eng-tu, Kuei-yang, and K'un-ming to provide for equitable distribution among all the people. Transportation of the grain to loading points on the Yangtze River is difficult because of the mountainous terrain and the prevalent use of coolie labor as a means of transportation, but authorities in charge of the operation estimate that the movement to East China will have been completed by the end of September 1950. Three hundred thousand piculs are already on the way to their destination.

In return for the grain, the East China District is shipping raw cotton, cloth, yarn, and essential industrial products to the Southwest. Thus far, 41,162 market piculs of raw cotton, 1,897 parcels of yarn, and assorted bolts of cloth have already arrived in Chungking.

This trade, which has been carried out in accordance with regulations of the central Ministry of Trade, is designed not only to remedy shortages in both areas, but also to aid in a general stabilization of prices.

SZECHWAN GRAIN MOVES EAST -- Shanghai Ta Kung Pao, 17 Apr 50

Ten thousand tons of Szechwan grain have reached Hankow on the way to Shanghai. It is planned to ship 115,000 tons to East China by the end of July.

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CANTON EXPORTS INCREASE -- Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao, 7 Apr 50

Under the "promote exports and control imports" policy of the Foreign Trade Control Bureau for the South China area, the March exports from Canton reached a new high since liberation. Exports exceeded imports by 6,635,580.05 Hong Kong dollars (about 40 billion yuan people's currency).

One of the chief reasons for the increase is that foreign exchange transaction rates are insuring a reasonable profit for the exporter. Another factor is that steadily improving communications permit concentration of goods at Canton. A third factor is the growing foreign demand for Chinese products.

According to official data, the March exports included 50.2 percent vegetable and animal products and 34.6 percent fish. Bamboo, fuel, lumber, rattan, and paper together constituted 5.3 percent. The balance was made up of textiles and their finished products, and metallic ores and their finished products.

March imports fell 14.21 percent below those of February and 56 percent below those of January. Aside from the fact that Hong Kong money for foreign exchange is now scarce in Canton, the following factors are important:

1. Undesired imports are controlled by the Foreign Trade Bureau
2. Many imports are forbidden because of domestic production. They include: flour, cigarette paper, bicycles, etc. The chief March imports were paraffin, rubber, and fats, amounting to 32.5 percent, cotton and cotton products amounting to 16.4 percent, metals and metal products 14.5 percent, hemp and hemp products 12.9, chemical products and paper 5.4 percent. The balance was divided among a large variety of minor imports.

IMPORTED COTTON TAX EXEMPTION CONTINUES -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 31 Mar 50

Peiping, 30 March -- Tax exemption of imported cotton, which was to have expired on 31 March 1950, has been extended to the end of September 1950 by the Financial and Economic Commission of the Administration Council. The tax on imported cotton was exempted to stimulate the flow of foreign cotton to the cotton mills in China.

TRADE TREASURIES SET UP IN CENTRAL, SOUTH CHINA -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 1 Apr 50

Peiping, 31 March -- Trade treasuries are being set up in most large cities in the Northwest, Southwest, and Central and South China administrative regions. One at Sian in the Northwest region was established on 20 March, while several others are being set up in various cities. In the Southwest region, the treasury was established in the Chungking branch of the People's Bank on 20 March, and was opened for business on the same day. In the Central and South China region, as of 22 March, branch trade treasuries were set up in the following seven cities: Hankow, Canton, Ch'ang-sha, Nan-ch'ang, K'ai-feng, Cheng-chou, and Kuei-lin; and in two provincial branches, Hupeh and Kwangtung.

SHANTUNG BRANCH TRADE TREASURY ESTABLISHED -- Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao, 18 Mar 50

The Shantung Branch Trade Treasury was set up on 13 March 1950, and the Shantung Branch of the Central Salt Corporation has transferred its funds from

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the bank to the trade treasury. According to general reports, finance control agencies in all areas have suspended all deferrable payments, beyond expenses for current operation and disaster relief, since the Administration Council promulgated its decision to centralize the nation's financial and economic functions, and are awaiting disposition from the Administration Council.

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